

They were wrong.

They are the very same people who had 40 years, 40 years to do something about Social Security and did not manage to put away a single dime to save it.

They were really wrong.

They are the very same people who failed to reform the IRS, an agency that routinely trampled on the rights of American citizens. The Republican Congress showed them they were wrong again.

Just look at the record of our liberal accusers and consider their credibility.

SHAME ON THE REPUBLICANS

(Mr. DEFAZIO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, the Republican majority says there are two reasons we cannot approve the President's program for local education, for teachers, for smaller class size and school improvements.

One, they say there is no time. Well, the President made the proposal in January. Since then, this Congress has worked 110 days here in Washington, D.C. Not bad for a \$137,000-a-year salary. But the average American, at a \$30,000-a-year salary, has worked 201 days, while these clowns have only worked 110. And they say there is no time to do the people's business.

Then they say there is no money. There is no money for kids, for education, for schools. Yet on the front page of the Washington Post, they document more than \$50 million stuffed in the DOD bill with no consideration, including a quarter of a million dollars for pharmacokinetics research. That is the study of the use of stay-alert chewing gum, which is manufactured in the hometown of one member of that committee. One quarter of one million dollars will be spent, but there is no money for teachers, no money for kids, no money for school.

Shame on the Republicans.

1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE
SHOULD BE RESIDENCE OF
TRUTH, JUSTICE, HONOR, DIG-
NITY

(Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, the New York Post reported last week, quote, "115 American men and women are in jail—forever marked as felons—for having committed perjury in Federal courts, and before grand juries."

Now, if any one of these felons had been resting in their air-conditioned jail cells last week watching C-SPAN on their color television sets, they would certainly be confused, but also gratified.

"Confused" to see so many Members debating whether perjury is something

that we still take seriously; "excited" to know so many Democrats have taken the side of the perjurers in saying that it is not.

Well, Mr. Speaker, if the prosecutors and judges who have already put 115 perjurers behind bars want to find another one, all they have to do is ask any Member of Congress for the street address of the wrongdoer's hideout. Better yet, crime fighters need only ask any student in America who might have read in their civics textbook that 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue is supposed to be the residence of democracy and the American Way: Justice, honor, dignity, truth, and all the rest.

VOTE FOR EDUCATION

(Mr. WYNN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, the battle lines have been drawn in the war for education. On the Democratic side we have a simple proposition. We need more teachers to create smaller classrooms. We need school modernization so that we can have computers in the classroom, Internet access, and have the most modern teaching facilities that money can buy.

We can do this within the context of a balanced budget. That is what the Democrats want to do: More teachers, modern classrooms.

Now, the Republicans have another notion. They want to give students vouchers to take money out of public schools and send it to private schools, even though nine out of ten Americans go to public schools.

Second, they say, well, there is too much administrative waste, so we have to block grant all of this. The fact is, only 2 percent of all the Federal education funds are for administration. The rest go into programs. But when they block grant the money and say we are going to block grant and put it all together, what happens is we cut education funds. I did some research, and my State would lose \$10 million. The battle lines are drawn. Vote for education.

PART-TIME PRESIDENT, FULL-TIME FUND-RAISER

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, it seems that our President has his priorities a little bit confused. What are we to make of the fact that we have a part-time President, but a full-time fund-raiser?

The Fund-raiser in Chief just completed his 100th fund-raiser this year, this one in New York City. One hundred fund-raisers, but only two Cabinet meetings. Just in case anyone heard that wrong, I will say it again. One hundred fund-raisers, but only two Cabinet meetings.

Ironically, the business conducted at the Cabinet meetings were both related, one to say "I did not" and the other one to say "I did." That is what I call a commitment to, as he says, "Doing the job the American people sent me here to do."

Of course, in between those two Cabinet meetings we had India and Pakistan test nuclear devices; we had a total failure to develop a National Missile Defense system, even though the U.S. Navy already has technology on Aegis cruisers; and, we heard that Saddam Hussein thumbed his nose at the U.N. and U.S. weapons inspectors time and time again.

Mr. Speaker, we do not need a part-time President or a full-time fund-raiser. We need some attention to the Nation's business.

□ 1030

EDUCATION

(Mr. HINCHEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, as we are about to close this 105th Congress, there is one critically important job that remains yet to be done. Even though there are literally only hours left in this Congress, we have enough time to do it. That is to upgrade and improve the quality of our educational system.

Unfortunately, the Members who run this House are trying to escape from town without fulfilling that obligation. The President has presented us with a plan to reduce class sizes, to upgrade and modernize our facilities, and also to educate new teachers, all of which is critically important to the economy of America in the 21st century.

We have the responsibility and the opportunity to act before we leave town. We know that kids learn better in class sizes that are smaller. If have 35 kids in the class, not much learning goes on. If you have 18 children in that class, a lot of learning goes on. And that learning is going to be important to those children, to their families, to their communities and the country as we move into the 21st century. Let us be straight with the American people. Let us move forward with this education agenda. Let us get this job done before we leave this Congress.

PRIDE IN THIS CONGRESS

(Mr. GUTKNECHT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud of what this Congress has done to provide tax relief for hard working American families. The \$500 per child tax cut will help people provide for their kids. Education savings accounts and the \$1500 Hope credit will help them pay for college. Roth IRAs and capital gains tax relief will help people

save and invest for their future. Tax free home sales, three-year income averaging for farmers and death tax relief will also reduce the burdens on American families. We all know that they can spend the money a whole lot smarter than the Federal Government can.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Congress gave the American people more good news on taxes, voting to extend the R&D tax credit through 1999, accelerate the full deductibility of health care costs and extending the work opportunities tax credit. We still have much more to do but this is a great start. What a difference a Republican Congress has made.

LACK OF LEADERSHIP

(Mr. ALLEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, this Congress lacks standing to criticize the President. This is a do-nothing Congress. Look what this Congress has accomplished under the Republican leadership. They have killed a national child care initiative. They have killed a Patients' Bill of Rights. They have killed the tobacco settlement, and they have killed campaign finance reform.

We Democrats are here today fighting for education, trying to salvage something out of a pathetic year. We want smaller class sizes for our kids. We want better school buildings in this country. We want higher education standards for this country. We have got to salvage something because every child in this country deserves a chance to be a productive citizen in this global economy.

The Republican leadership in this Congress cannot run a railroad. It is because they do not want the train to leave the station. And we Democrats are going to stay here fighting for education as long as it takes.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FACT AND OPINION

(Mr. CALVERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, there is a difference between fact and opinion. I think any objective observer would look at the facts and agree with this conclusion: We have a part-time President and a full-time fund-raiser.

Just consider the facts: Yesterday the President's New York City fund-raiser was his 100th of the year, yesterday, the 100th fund-raiser of the year. Meanwhile he has had only two cabinet meetings. For those of us who have not had higher math, who were raised on whole math, rain forest math or other liberal nonsense, that works out to approximately one cabinet meeting for every 50 fund-raisers. Of course, we are not sure exactly how much important

business was discussed at those two cabinet meetings aside from denials, retractions and half apologies.

This Congress has put aside \$1.4 trillion for Social Security, passed a balanced budget, IRS reform and tax cuts, making it perhaps the most successful Congress in a generation. Meanwhile the part-time President allows Saddam Hussein to thumb his nose at us, North Korea to threaten its neighbors and a national missile defense system to remain on the shelf.

REPUBLICAN CONGRESS IS COASTING

(Mr. VENTO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, after doing half a job, this Congress for the past year has been coasting. Here we are, almost 15 days beyond, two weeks beyond the fiscal year and the budget matters are not being addressed. For these 10 months, bills and proposals that the President put on the table and the Democrats have been pushing on education and investing in people have been languishing. There has been no response.

The Republicans in Congress have said no!

The only Republicans Congress response is to pass some window dressing bills in terms of authorization, then to turn around and not even put the money into the appropriation bills that would fund those important education programs. I think it is time to offer real money for school to put the dollars behind the rhetoric in school construction, to offer more than just duck tape and lip service to deal with the worn out facilities that our children are supposed to be taught with in and learning. I think it is time to put teachers in the classroom and provide smaller class size, the type of quality assistance that our children need today more than ever.

This generation deserves the same investment that past generations had and that others in this country had. Our children are our future. Education is the ticket to success and opportunity in our democracy. Let us vote for these education programs and initiatives.

CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

(Mr. BARR of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Matthew Shepard a 21-year-old student in Wyoming is dead, brutally murdered by those who for one reason or another did not like him. The perpetrators need to be punished swiftly, thoroughly and appropriately, namely, the death penalty.

Wyoming is trying to do its job. Let us here in the Congress let Wyoming do

its job. Wyoming provides for the death penalty in cases such as this. Yet there are those who are clamoring for Federal legislation to "increase penalties for such crimes." One really wonders what would be an increased penalty over the death penalty. I would be interested to see. It may very well violate the constitutional ban against cruel and unusual punishment.

Let us not rush to judgment and pass vastly expansive Federal legislation such as that which came before the Subcommittee on Crime earlier this year which included terms which would provide the basis for Federal jurisdiction which were nowhere defined in Federal law. Passing legislation as a knee jerk reaction to an awful incident is not the best way to govern. We need to resist the urge, let Wyoming and the other States do their jobs.

VIAGRA

(Ms. MCKINNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, pardon me, but today I rise because I am outraged by a New York Times report that the Department of Defense has requested between \$50 and \$100 million for Viagra, the new sex drug designed for impotent men. Instead of offsetting this request from its \$26 billion budget, Secretary Cohen has requested an increase in the 1999 military readiness bill. When the military brass were on Capitol Hill saying that our reasonable belt tightening had resulted in an impotent military, I guess I did not fully understand the scope of the problem.

With \$50 million worth of Viagra, the entire military industrial complex will be locked, cocked and ready to rock. Pretty scary.

Mr. Speaker, they just do not get it, with Monica-gate, the Aberdeen Proving Ground sex scandal and widespread sexual assaults throughout the military, our Commander-in-Chief and his Secretary of Defense concocted this idea that our military needs this extra expenditure. Let us have no more talk of this expanding malfunctioning missile salvation operation.

MATTHEW SHEPARD

(Mr. KOLBE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, the senseless and tragic death of Matthew Shepard in Laramie, Wyoming, following by only a few months on the heels of an equally tragic murder in Jasper, Texas, reminds us of how imperfect are our efforts to eradicate violence, hatred and bigotry in our society. By all accounts, Matthew Shepard was a gentle young man, liked by all who knew him, an unlikely person to incite such mindless and brutal violence in others.

How then does this occur? How do individuals get it fixed in their heads